

# Spend a season with us!

The Indiana Division of State Parks and Reservoirs offers seasonal interpretive positions at all of its state parks and reservoir properties during the summer months. Most positions last 3 months, starting in April or May, and continue through the summer recreation season. Properties without a full time interpretive naturalist generally employ one summer staff person. Properties with a full-time interpretive naturalist may employ up to three seasonal staff and offer work extending well into other seasons.

## Diverse People and Diverse Places

Our parks and reservoirs vary in size from 250 acres to more than 25,000 acres. Our landscapes are rich and varied. Most properties have interpretive facilities such as a nature center, historic home or memorial. On weekends, interpretive naturalists offer 3-5 educational and entertaining programs per day. The number of programs offered on weekdays varies at each property. The visitors to our sites are as diverse as the plants and animals you'll help them discover. We encourage our interpretive naturalists and recreation staff to offer a wide variety of program types, ranging from campfires and crafts to hikes, nighthikes and talks. You will discover what works best at your site through discussions with property staff, the chief of interpretation and full-time interpretive naturalists. You'll also use notes from past seasonal interpretive naturalists.

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## Why "Interpretive" Naturalist?

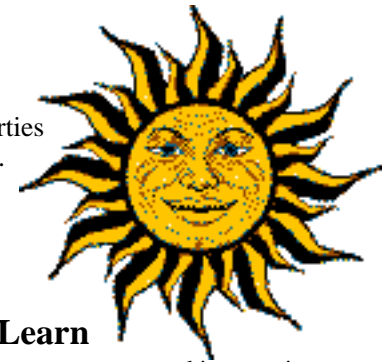
We do much more than identify plants and wildlife. We encourage visitors to discover the outdoors for themselves and to value the properties they visit. We share our stories and experiences. We talk about everything from wild geraniums to garter snakes and we listen closely, too!

Each of our properties has a unique history and unique resource management needs. We explore that history through research and programs and, in some cases, actively working to restore natural and cultural resources.

## Part of a Team

What will your role be on the property? You'll be part of a team that includes a property manager, an assistant manager, a wildlife biologist (on reservoir properties), office staff, full time laborers and mechanics, gate attendants, mowing and cleaning crews and lifeguards. A goal that *all* of you share is to help visitors have the best possible experience in the outdoors. Specific duties may include:

- developing and presenting a wide variety of interpretive programs, ranging from talks and hikes to slide shows, children's programs, campfires and crafts. You will generally choose your program topics. They will be based primarily on the resources and facilities of your property. You may lead games that describe the adaptations of river otters, or present a talk on the use of fire as a management tool or teach fishing to youngsters.
- preparing, publishing and posting a weekly or monthly schedule of activities, assisting with property recreational activities and hosting various previously scheduled performing arts events.
- writing newspaper articles preparing interpretive brochures and submitting media releases for property events in consultation with the property manager, full time interpretive naturalist or chief interpreter.
- developing, constructing, installing and maintaining interpretive displays used in bulletin boards, nature centers, property offices and information cases.
- researching and recording information on the property's flora and fauna.



## A Time to Grow and Learn

Your first summer as a seasonal interpretive naturalist may be intense, but it can be one of the most rewarding experiences you will have. You will have a chance to:

- introduce visitors to the unique plants, animals, facilities and history of an Indiana state park or reservoir.
- sharpen your identification skills and expand your understanding of the relationships between plants, animals, soil, water, history and people.
- work with and learn from other seasonal and full time interpretive naturalists/recreation staff.
- develop strong communication skills by presenting hikes, talks, crafts and other interpretive/recreational programs in a variety of settings.
- gain valuable experience that will benefit you in choosing and following a career path in natural resources.
- have fun!

## Our Mission

The mission of the Division of State Parks and Reservoirs is to manage and interpret our unique natural, wildlife and cultural resources; to provide for compatible recreational opportunities; and to sustain the integrity of those resources for future generations.



The mission of the Interpretive Services is to provide information and offer interpretive experiences with Indiana's natural and cultural resources to visitors, staff and a diverse public.

## Am I Right for this Job?

To work as a seasonal interpretive naturalist in the Division of State Parks and Reservoirs, you must meet these requirements:

- Have a minimum of 2 years undergraduate work in natural sciences, outdoor recreation or closely related field or a combination of work related experience of equal value up to one year with applicable college courses.
- Attend a 3-4 day interpretive training session scheduled in late May each year.
- Have a good working knowledge of natural sciences, environmental principles and be familiar with Midwestern flora and fauna.
- Have strong working skills in public speaking, writing, graphic arts, multimedia and the use of computers.
- Have a valid driver's license.
- Generally, provide your own housing and transportation to the property.
- Work most evenings, weekends and holidays.
- Wear a DNR uniform, provided by the state.
- Have physical condition sufficient to work out of doors and under sometimes strenuous conditions.

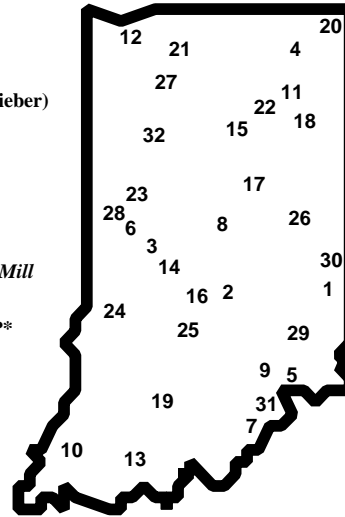
## How Do I Apply?

State employment application forms (State Form 22477) are available at DNR sites. Call the property where you are interested in working to inquire about openings. Complete an application and send it with an updated resume, college transcripts and cover letter to that property. Addresses will be in our annual *Recreation Guide*. For more information or if you have any questions, you can contact the Chief of Interpretation at the address on the front cover.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

## Indiana's State Parks and Reservoirs

1. Brookville Lake  
765/647-2657
  2. **Brown County SP\***  
812/988-5240
  3. **Cagles Mill Lake(Lieber)**  
765/795-3552
  4. Chain O'Lakes SP\*  
260/636-2654
  5. **Clifty Falls SP\***  
812/273-0609
  6. **Raccoon/Mansfield Mill**  
765/344-1412
  7. **Falls of the Ohio SP\***  
812/280-8689
  8. **Ft. Harrison SP\***  
317/591-0122
  9. **Hardy Lake**  
812/794-2244
  10. **Harmonie SP\***  
812/682-4821
  11. **Huntington Lake**  
260/468-2165
  12. **Indiana Dunes SP\***  
219/926-1390
  13. Lincoln SP\*  
812/937-4710
  14. **McCormick's Creek SP\***  
812/829-2235
  15. **Mississinewa Lake**  
765/473-6528
  16. Monroe Lake\*  
812/837-9967
  17. **Mounds SP\***  
765/649-8128
  18. Ouabache SP  
260/824-0926
  19. **Patoka Lake\***  
812/685-2447
  20. **Pokagon SP\***  
260/833-2012
  21. **Potato Creek SP\***  
574/656-8186
  22. **Salamonie Lake\***  
260/468-2127
  23. Shades SP  
765/435-2810
  24. Shakamak SP\*  
812/665-2158
  25. **Spring Mill SP\***  
812/849-4129
  26. Summit Lake SP  
765/766-5873
  27. Tippecanoe River SP\*  
574/946-3213
  28. **Turkey Run SP\***  
765/597-2654
  29. Versailles SP\*  
812/689-6424
  30. Whitewater SP\*  
765/647-2657
- Coming Soon:*  
31. Charlestown SP  
812/256-5600  
32. Prophetstown SP  
765/567-4919



**Bold\*** Full time & seasonal interpretive naturalists, Nature Center  
**Bold** Full time & seasonal interpretive naturalists, no Nature Center  
*Italic* Full time & seasonal interpretive naturalists, historic site  
 Plain\* Seasonal only interpretive naturalists, Nature Center  
 Plain Seasonal only interpretive naturalists, no Nature Center

**SPEND A SEASON WITH US!**

# INTERPRETIVE NATURALIST POSITIONS WITH

INDIANA STATE PARKS AND RESERVOIRS



Indiana Department of Natural Resources

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